

FREE

BONAIRE Apr. 15 - Apr. 29, 2019, Year 26, Issue 8
The REPORTER

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*Taking care of our flamingos
Walk-a-thon recap
Bonaire windrider wins FORSA PWA*



*Elly Albers with a juvenile flamingo
Photo by Julie Morgan*



FLOTSAM and JETSAM

BOINAIRE The REPORTER



The new Commissioners were sworn in at a meeting of the Island Council by Island Governor Edison Rijna. L-R. Elvis Tjin-Asjoe (MPB), Nina den Heyer (MPB) and James Kroon (UPB).

► **As of April 9, 2019, Bonaire has a new Executive Council**, supported by a coalition of the *Movimentu di Pueblo Boneriano* (MPB) and the *Union Patriótiko Boneriano* (UPB). As the MPB obtained four seats and the UPB two, the new Executive Council can count on a relatively comfortable majority of six of the nine seats on the island council. Nina Den Heyer and Elvis Tjin-Ajoe have served twice as commissioners. James Kroon is the only deputy returning from the previous executive council.

On April 9, 2019 the Executive Council and the directors of the government met with Minister Kajsja Ollongren and State Secretary Raymond Knops both of the Ministry of Interior Affairs and Kingdom Relations (BZK). Minister Ollongren expressed the hope that with the new Executive Council 'better times' will come for Bonaire. Island Secretary Nerry Gonzalez said she was proud that Bonaire is on schedule with the Administrative Agreement (Bestuursakkoord). Among other things, the agreement requires that from March 1, 2019 letters or requests from citizens to the government be dealt with within a maximum time frame of six weeks.



The new Executive Council with the directors of the Public Entity standing behind (L-R) State Secretary Raymond Knops and Minister Kajsja Ollongren with Governor Edison Rijna and Island Secretary Nerry Gonzalez. Photos: Government of Bonaire.

BMP rescues capsized boat



Sherwanda, a Sea Ray boat, holding 20 athletes from the Rincon soccer team, *Real Rincon*, capsized about four miles from Bonaire April 11. The owner, who goes by the name of Broertje, was returning the team to Bonaire following a soccer tournament in Curaçao.

The Bonaire Marine Park rangers arrived just in time take these photos as the boat went down. Everyone on board was rescued and taken safely to shore.



The BMP rangers worked from 3 pm to 2 am before the boat was brought to shore in Bonaire. Ranger Leonel Martijn explained the boat was towed in upside down and then righted at the dock in downtown Kralendijk before it was moved to the marina at 1 pm April 12.

The owner said he didn't know what happened. *J.M.*



Flotsam & Jetsam continued on page 3

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The Bike Professionals

Flying Inter-Island

► Aruba Airlines' finances have taken a double hit. Since President Maduro closed the Venezuelan border February 21, 2019, they cannot operate flights out of Venezuela to final destination Miami. And April 1, 2019, the airlines lost their higher court appeal against the United States Department of Transportation (DOT)'s ruling that denied Aruba Airlines the right to fly charters out of Florida to Cuba. Local media on Aruba reported last week that some employees were already being laid off.

► If Aruba Airlines does not survive their current financial problems, the islands will continue to depend on the two smaller inter-island carriers (Divi Divi Air and EZ Air) for flights between the ABC-islands. Unlike to their bigger counterparts, both Divi Divi and EZ Air have been conservative in their expansion plans and have focused on the ABC islands, rather than on Venezuela. Another inter-island carrier is Sint Maarten-based Winair which announced expanded services out of Curacao as of April 15, 2019. Winair's planned service increase is as follows.

- Curacao – Aruba — Increase from 5 to 7 weekly
- Curacao – Bonaire — Increase from 3 to 5 weekly
- Curacao – Port-au-Prince — New nonstop service, 2 weekly
- Curacao – Santo Domingo — New nonstop service, 3 weekly

► April 11, 2019. In a letter sent to the Second Chamber of the Dutch Parliament, State Secretary Knops stated that BES Air B.V. does not meet the requirements to start flights between the BES islands. According to Knops, the Inspectorate of Air Transport (ILT) takes the position that no operating license can be issued to BES Air BV, due, among other things, to the lack of an Air Operators Certificate (AOC), and to not meeting the requirements of the BES Aviation Act, which include the requirement that the company should possess aircraft.

BES Air CEO Wim Hesselink says that his start-up carrier may operate out of French Sint Maarten, now that the Dutch Government keeps frustrating his efforts to start operations out of one of the BES islands. Hesselink strongly denies that BES Air would not have the necessary permits.

"We have had all permits for years. But due to the incorrect BES Aviation Act, we cannot actually operate from the BES islands." According to the entrepreneur the requirement to first buy and register aircraft and then be able to apply for a permit is "the opposite world."

► State Secretary Knops also wrote in his letter to the Second Chamber that the Ministry of Environment and Transportation has commissioned a study into connectivity within the Caribbean. The report outlines developments, public interests and possibilities for (air) transport in the Caribbean parts of the Kingdom.

Enforcing Bonaire's Laws

► The Justice Triangle met April 4, 2019, in Bonaire. Authorities, police and justice participants discussed the new Traffic Ordinance of Bonaire which will take effect on August 1, 2019, and the damage fund for violent crimes. The Coastguard gave a presentation about their deployment in the Caribbean. In attendance were: the Attorney General, the Chief Public Prosecutor, the island governors of Bonaire and Saba and the government commissioner of Sint Eustatius.

Bonaire's current Traffic Ordinance dates from 1958 when phoning or texting behind the wheel were unknown. The old Ordinance didn't require the use of seat belts, motorcycle helmets or child seats. The amount of alcohol one could drink when driving wasn't officially restricted, so action against drunk drivers by the police was extremely difficult. All these regulations are going to change with the introduction of the new Traffic Ordinance, August 1st, 2019.

► The Public Prosecutor's Office has closed its investigation as to whether criminal offenses were committed in the transfer of leasehold property from the Bonaire International Airport to Daboussi Real Estate. When called upon to investigate the low price, the Prosecutor's office interviewed, among others, commissioner James Kroon. Kroon stated that the deal was negotiated between the management of the airport and was not something the Executive Council was closely involved with.

"And that is how it is supposed to be, because the Airport is a separate entity and not directly run by Government," said Kroon.

Daboussi stated that the building of a service office adjacent to the airport was not only favorable to his own business, such as his Avis car rental franchise, but could also be used by others wishing to have offices close to the airport.

► Police Report (April 3-8). April 4: the police called the fire brigade to extinguish an old car burning in Seru Angola. No one was injured.

• A burglary was reported in Sabadeco. Strangers forced a door of the house between 7pm and 10.15pm and took two safes away.

April 5: A scooter was stopped on Kaya Kòrsou because it had no rear lights and no license plate. The driver also had no insurance papers and driver's license. The scooter was seized.

• A man with initials T.X.T. aged 23 and a man with initials C.R.F. 21 years were arrested on Kaya Bonaire for violating the Opium Act BES. Bags containing drugs, presumably cocaine, marijuana and hashish, were found. As a result of the drugs found, a house search was conducted in a home in Hato. Among other things, a small-scale weed plantation was found. The case is being investigated further.

April 6: A report was made of the theft of a green CXM brand bicycle at a supermarket on Kaya Soeur Bartola.

Flotsam & Jetsam continued on page 4

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Flotsam & Jetsam continued from page 3

► **Dutch nationals living abroad can apply for a DigiD (Digital ID).** With a DigiD people can identify themselves on the Internet, can log in on Dutch government websites, such as Mijn DUO (student grant) and pension funds among others. Dutch nationals can apply for a DigiD on www.digid.nl and as of April 10, 2019 activation codes can be picked up at the service counter of the Belastingdienst/CN (Tax Office CN).

► **“Opportunities for All Children”** For the third consecutive year the Minis-

try of Social Affairs and Employment has asked social organizations in the Caribbean Netherlands to apply for subsidies to help children from families that have less to spend.

Over the past two years, the program has granted schools and foundations money for projects such as: helping children with a healthy school breakfast, paying for swimming lessons or giving them the chance to play sports or music. Last year nineteen projects were approved on Bonaire.

New Appointments

Delno Tromp has been named Interim Manager at Tourism Corporation Bonaire for six months from April 1, 2019. During his appointment, TCB will recruit candidates for three key functions: Director of Tourism, Marketing Manager and Cruise Coordinator/Product Developer.



Maritza Valdink has been appointed as the new head of Judicial and General Affairs (JAZ) of the Government of Bonaire. Valdink, who has been acting Department Head, plans to further professionalize JAZ in order to strengthen the administrative support to the Government.



Hellen van der Wal is the new Board Chair of the Dutch Caribbean Alliance (DCNA). The DCNA protects nature in all six Dutch Caribbean Islands: St Maarten, Aruba, Curacao, Bonaire, St. Eustatius and Saba.

“A new Board Chair always has new ideas. It is important that the six islands stick together although that sometimes is challenging due to the constitutional change of the Kingdom and the special position of the BES-islands” explains van der Wal. *B.L.*



Photos of Tromp & Valdink, Government of Bonaire. Photo of van der Wal, DCNA.

Letters to the Editor

Subject: New web format

Hi--I've been a reader for many years and greatly appreciate the Bonaire Reporter. At the moment, however, I must say that I do not like the new browser-based access method.

It appears to work with Microsoft Edge, but in a very limited fashion in Firefox, my much preferred browser. The small, page-advancing arrowheads at the left and right margins of each page disappear very quickly, denying access to the subsequent pages. I managed to get to page 2, but no further.

The downloadable PDF method was so convenient: I could either jump page to page or go directly to the desired page. The tools for searching and commenting are built into the PDF application I use. In the new method, it appears I cannot jump pages. There are undoubtedly advantages for you and maybe for the reader, but I have been unable to get far enough into an issue to come to any positive conclusion to that effect.

Regards, *Larry Morin, Sand Dollar Condominium Owner*

Editor's note: For all readers who prefer the “scroll-down” version, you can access it in two ways: 1. In the menu below the newer version, you will see a download icon. Click that, and a “scroll-down” pdf appears. 2. You can also access the “scroll-down” version at: <https://www.bonairereporter.com/news/019pdfs/newcurrent.pdf>

Dear Editor:

Many guests from cruise ships treat our island as if it is a water park, and not a national marine park. Abuse of coral and environment is a daily occurrence on cruise ship days. A few minutes of instruction prior to visiting the island might be beneficial. *Stan Ortman*

Have something to say? Want to give your opinion?
All letters must be signed.
Email: BonaireReporter2019@gmail.com



Ask Kate Bonaire real estate advice

Question: *Why isn't my Bonaire house selling? My agent says it is a fair price and some people have looked at it, but there have been no offers. R.T.*

Dear R.T., We have a saying in real estate that the first reason a property doesn't sell is the price, and the second reason is also the price. However, here on Bonaire there can be some other reasons why a house takes longer to sell.

Your house's location, condition and rental status are other factors. Some locations appeal to buyers more than others, especially if they hope to use the property for vacation rentals. Cleanliness is also important. Buyers looking for their dream home are not envisioning clutter and untidiness, so it is important that the home looks as clean and spacious as possible. If your house is rented, do the tenants keep the property clean and permit showings when requested? Some tenants may not be eager to agree to showing appointments, especially if they want to keep living there.

Have you received feedback from your agent after each showing? This is a good indication of whether there is a specific concern about your house that you can fix or update. If there are no negative comments after a showing, but lookers end up buying other houses, it's probably the price. *Wishing you all the best for a successful sale! Kate Butler, GRI, Real Estate Agent, RE/MAX Bonaire*

If you have a real estate question for Kate, email her at kate@bonairehomes.com
Tollfree from US: 1-866-611-7362

Picture Yourself with The Reporter in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan



Nancy writes: This photo was taken by three Bonaire regulars who come in February. We are in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan. This was one of the five “Stands” we visited in September, 2018! L-R, Gerald Hill Scarlett Rehrig, Nancy Geidel.

WIN A PRIZE! Take a copy of *The Bonaire Reporter* with you on your next trip to an interesting location or when you return home. Then take a photo of yourself with the newspaper in hand. Send to BonaireReporter2019@gmail.com This and all 2019 photos are eligible for the next contest.

Water Polo competes in Carifta games

Bonaire Aquatics Bond proudly sent two teams (under 14 and under 19) to Barbados for the Carifta games April 11 – 16. Besides training hard both in the water and in the gym at Bonaire Basics, the Barracuda team has worked diligently to raise money for the trip with monthly car washes. Budget Marine and Eco de Caribe provided a place to hold the car wash and supplied the team with eco-friendly car shampoo and wax.

The Bonaire Aquatics Bond thanks

all of the sponsors that made the trip possible: Fundashon Wega di Number, Digicel, Bonaire Basics, Budget Marine, Remax, WEB, MCB, Akkermans Auto Supplies, Delfins Beach Resort, Eco Di Caribe, Lek Lek Thai food, M-Tech and many individuals.

The fund raising car washes have been so successful for the Barracuda team they will be continued. The next scheduled date will be May 18 to raise funds for their competition in Curaçao in May.

The History of Earth Day (Earth Day Network –EarthDay.org)

The first Earth Day was celebrated April 22, 1970 and marks the birth of the modern environmental movement.

It was the height of counterculture in the United States. 1970 brought the death of Jimi Hendrix, the last Beatles album, and Simon & Garfunkel's "Bridge Over Troubled Water." War raged in Vietnam and students nationwide overwhelmingly opposed it.

At the time, Americans were slurping leaded gas through massive V8 sedans. Industry belched out smoke and sludge with little fear of legal consequences or bad press. Air pollution was commonly accepted as the smell of prosperity. "Environment" was a word that appeared more often in spelling bees than on the evening news.

Although mainstream America largely remained oblivious to environmental concerns, the stage had been set for change by the publication of Rachel Carson's New York Times bestseller *Silent Spring* in 1962. The book represented a watershed moment, selling more than 500,000 copies in 24 countries, and beginning to raise public awareness and concern for living organisms, the environment and links between pollution and public health.

Earth Day 1970 gave voice to that emerging consciousness, channeling the energy of the anti-war protest movement and putting environmental concerns on the front page.

The idea for a national day to focus on the environment came to Earth Day founder Gaylord Nelson, then a U.S. Senator from Wisconsin, after witnessing the ravages of the 1969 massive oil spill in Santa Barbara, California. Inspired by the student anti-war movement, he realized that if he could infuse that energy with an emerging public consciousness about air and water pollution, it would force environmental protection onto the national political agenda. Senator Nelson announced the idea for a "national teach-in on the environment" to the national media; persuaded Pete McCloskey, a conservation-minded Republican Congressman, to serve as his co-chair; and recruited Denis Hayes from Harvard as national coordinator. Hayes built a national staff of 85 to promote events across the land. April 22, falling between Spring Break and Final Exams, was selected as the date.

On April 22, 1970, 20 million Americans took to the streets, parks, and auditoriums to demonstrate for a healthy, sustainable environment in massive coast-to-coast rallies. Thousands of colleges and universities organized protests against the deterioration of the environment. Groups that had been fighting against oil spills, polluting factories and power plants, raw sewage, toxic dumps, pesticides, freeways, the loss of wilderness, and the extinction of wildlife suddenly realized they shared common values.

Earth Day 1970 achieved a rare political alignment, enlisting support from Republicans and Democrats, rich and poor, city slickers and farmers, tycoons and labor leaders. By the end of that year, the first Earth Day had led to the creation of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the passage of the Clean Air, Clean Water, and Endangered Species Acts. "It was a gamble," Gaylord recalled, "but it worked."

Earth Day has reached its current status as the largest secular observance in the world, celebrated by more than a billion people every year, and a day of action that changes human behavior and provokes policy changes.

Today, the fight for a clean environment continues with increasing urgency, as the ravages of climate change become more manifest every day. We invite you to be a part of Earth Day and help write many more chapters—struggles and victories—into the Earth Day book.

*"In nature, nothing exists alone."
— Rachel Carson, 1962*



Remembering Hans Hass WWII approaches



1939 L-R. Alfred von Wurziam, Joerg Boehler and Hans Hass arrive in Curaçao.

[Hans Hass and his two friends, Alfred von Wurziam and Joerg Boehler] camped and dived near Punt Vierkant again and even went with a small sailing boat around the southern tip of Bonaire and on to Lac Bay. Here they lived for several days in a fisherman's hut at Cai and dived in the channel in strong rip currents.

During these weeks the islanders regarded them with some suspicion: they were considered spies who were keeping secret rendezvous with German submarines! And the American press was convinced that they were German agents working in the Caribbean to pave the way for a submarine assault. This was even mentioned by U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt during a session of Congress. The secret agents were obviously supposed to be Hans Hass,

and his friends! At that time, it was apparently difficult to believe that three young Europeans would travel all the way to the Caribbean simply to explore its splendid underwater world. But, of course, this was long before the advent of diving tourism...

On October 1939, with the outbreak of the war imminent, Hans Hass was forced to return to Curaçao, where he and his friends found that their return tickets were useless as all sailings to Germany had been suspended. So they had to stay for 4 months on Curacao financing their trip home by selling fish to the hotels and corals to tourists.

Story by Michael Jung-

To be continued: Hans, Alfred and Joerg leave Curaçao and make their way back to Europe.



RINCON DAY, 2019

Rincon, the first village and original capital of Bonaire will celebrate its 492nd birthday and Dia di Rincon on April 30. The little village tucked away in a valley on Bonaire exudes Dutch Caribbean history on this day. The annual celebration, also known as Simadon or the harvest festival, includes dancing, music, local food and parades with participants dressed in traditional costumes. In our next issue, April 29, we will present some of the history related to us by Rudolf Wout and Maria of Soldatchi tours. This is the biggest party in the Dutch Caribbean and one you don't want to miss.

Our thanks to Rudolf Wout for the above photo of Rincon Day 2018.

Ask a Geek

This column is about using computer technology on Bonaire, written by "The Geek", an ex-pat computer guy who has retired on Bonaire. If you have a question, please email it to the editor and we'll try to get an answer for you by the next issue.

Q: What should I do when I receive an email or message on the screen from Microsoft telling me to urgently call them to get something fixed, which makes sense, because there is nobody on Bonaire to quickly help me with this problem?

A: This is a very common scam. You get a notification from "Microsoft Customer Service" telling you that your computer has an infection, and you must call them to help you fix it. If you agree, a technician, usually with a heavy accent, will instruct you to point, click, type some strange characters and hit enter. At that point, the technician confirms you are infected and must talk to a supervisor. When the supervisor gets on the phone, he informs you that "Your computer is definitely infected and it will cost \$750 to fix it - We accept all credit cards." What he didn't tell you is that his technician infected it!! This happened to an 82 year old family member. Unfortunately, he paid and they "fixed it." When he told me the story, I directed him to call his credit card company and explain what happened, and he did receive a full refund. The moral of the story - Microsoft, Apple, Dell, Samsung, HP, Lenovo, or any other legitimate computer company will never call or email you with this type of "offer". *Brian Niessen*





Taking care of Bonaire's flamingos



In the past few months people have been chatting on social media about the care of Bonaire's national symbol, the flamingo. The birds have been under fire by nature, tourism, construction and the ever-growing population of Bonaire.

In case you haven't heard, flamingos and the areas they breed and inhabit on Bonaire are protected. Since 1969 they have been under the care of the OLB (the island government), Cargill Salt Company (previously AISCO (Antilles International Salt Company) and Stinapa. They are the flamingo caretakers.

Back in the 1960's AISCO and a flamingo research group declared a 55 ha (120 acres) Flamingo reserve situated within 2200 ha (4800 acres) on the of salt condenser pans at the southern end of Bonaire. This is 22% of the island. Then there is Pekelmeer (salty lake) and Goto-meer that are designated wetlands under the Ramsar Convention. The entire area is protected. The sanctuary is one of the most important breeding grounds for the

southern Caribbean flamingo and 210 species of birds.

Over 26 years ago a long lease was set up between the island government and the salt company. The deal was that the company could go about their business making salt and still protect the natural assets in the south. They have lived up to their end of the bargain and take the commitment very seriously.

Keeping a flamingo count is part of their job. Every month Cargill and the island government count the birds. There is documentation going back to 1981 with the numbers of flamingos varying seasonally from 6616 in Nov. 2000 to 565 in April 1986.

Nature made a volatile hit on Bonaire in March 2018. Huge rafts of sargassum seaweed invaded the east coast and threatened to strangle the mangroves, Pekelmeer and the breeding grounds of the flamingo. The sargassum invasion came with high winds making the seaweed even more difficult to contain. Everyone was caught off-guard and everyone tried to help including countless and seemingly tireless volunteers trying to clear the seaweed before it could do major damage.

This came during a critical time when the flamingo chicks and juveniles were beginning their education in flying and being a flamingo. Sargassum and high winds are a bad combination for young birds and many were separated from their families.

Enter our next caretaker, Elly Albers who officially started the Wild Bird Sanctuary during the sargassum crisis. The sanctuary is sustained by donations and warm hearted souls who volunteer.

Elly rescued and nursed 265 juveniles and babies during this time.

The sargassum visited Bonaire again in March 2019 but not to the degree of last year. The OLB, Stinapa and Cargill tried to curtail the sargassum's encroachment with big, yellow oil booms anchored in the shallow areas off LacBai and Sorbonne. The Lagoen area was also affected and bulldozers were brought in to remove the stuff from the coast.

Policy advisor for nature in the island government said, "We were a bit slow in reacting this year. It's a bit of a learning process."

Cargill ordered special equipment and did most of the work on the sanctuary while Stinapa focused on Lac and Lagoen. Unfortunately there are no special funds set aside for these natural events. The Governor would have to declare the area a disaster situation to claim certain funds.

Back in the 60's there were three heavy storms and flooding that destroyed at least one thousand flamingo eggs.

Knowing flooding can cause great damage to the eggs, Cargill controls the level of the water in each of the salt pans for salt production and a different level for the flamingo breeding grounds.

Cargill takes their role as landlords for the flamingos very seriously.

Production manager Daniel DeAnda said, "Water comes directly into the sanctuary. We put enough water in so it doesn't create salt. The level is recorded at least three times per week."

DeAnda has degrees in zoology and aquaculture. He explained the salinity of the pans is measured to create just the right mix. The pink colored pans are from the brine shrimp, a major flamingo food, while the white are making the salt.

Nesting seasons are generally from March - May and Sept- Nov. depending on the amount of rain.



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Bonaire Coastal Living



“The birds hang out by the condensers. Once they breed only the juveniles remain and a few of the adults are left to supervise”, said DeAnda.

This is the time of year when the winds are strong and the juveniles are at the most risk as they are learning to fly. The birds are sensitive to any outside distraction or nuisance.

Up until last week, Elly was caring for nine flamingos. That number has risen to 55. She reports more and more of the young birds have been found at hotels and brought to her. The increasing amount of cars, and cars that drive too fast are killing the birds.

“We need research to find out what is actually going on. There is something disturbing the birds. We need a protocol of what to do to keep people out of the sanctuary,” said Elly.

Anyone driving the south roads of Bonaire near Cargill will see blue painted rocks saying no entry, signs warning that it is illegal to enter, and barricades, all to curtail people entering. Yet people are still trespassing. The government has spent tens of thousands of dollars on these warnings, and some people still think its okay to trespass to bonefish, walk their dog or take photos in the reserve.

Cargill has employees who monitor the area for trespassers and politely ask these people to leave.

DeAnda said, “Last year we had a lot of problems with cruise ships. We had a meeting with Stinapa, the island government and TCB, (Tourist Corporation of Bonaire) to try to solve these problems. We tried to educate the tour bus drivers and taxi drivers and bicyclers.”

The island government said, “In the past it was never an issue, but it is now and it

has increased dramatically. After the meeting we did notice a bit of a difference from the tour operators. But we can’t reach everyone, especially not the small vendors.”

The Island government hopes a management plan will define where the responsibilities lie in enforcing these violations.

“The government manages the area, Stinapa does not; they are the Marine Park, but if they see something that could be harmful then they can act. Enforcement of the policy against trespassing would go a long way toward awareness,” said the government.

One idea to stop these offenses is to build a viewing tower near Willemstad lighthouse. Visitors would be able to see the flamingos without causing a threat or disturbance.

Near their gate, Cargill put out boxes with free salt rocks for anyone to take, to deter people from entering.

The nature advisor for island government could not stress enough how sensitive the birds are to outside influences.

“The message is not just protecting our natural assets; we won’t have that anymore. We would have to rename Flamingo Airport to tern or gull airport as the flamingos would stay away for years,” said the advisor.

To be a caretaker for Bonaire’s flamingos, please report any trespassing or illegal behavior to Stinapa 24/7 at 786-8444. If you find a flamingo or other injured or lost bird notify call Elly at....She currently needs volunteers who are willing to do some physical labor at the Wild Bird Sanctuary. If you want to help monetarily visit the Gofundme page under “Bird Wild” to provide the necessary food. *Photo and story by Julie Morgan.*



Notify F.K.K. Animal Rescue 780-8020 or Stinapa 717-8444 if you see an injured flamingo like this one with an injured leg struggling at Gotomeer.



L-R Suzanne Stapleton and Beatriz Lutz

Decorating your home in a unique island style may be easier than you think thanks to Bonaire Coastal Living. This new store opened its doors on December 15. The owners Beatriz (Bea) Lutz and Suzanne (Su) Stapleton were inspired to launch the coastal shop due to the lack of island style furnishings available on Bonaire.

“There was only basic furniture here, we wanted to offer different things with appeal,” Su explained.

“We offer quality. Things that will last and are easy to care for but are interesting and you want on display in your home,”

The store is actually a little showroom for the online store with items that people can purchase immediately. The Coastal Living website displays 627 items. People can order online and then come by and pick it up or have it delivered.

Once Bea and Su know there is an interest in a particular item, they do the research and make it available online or in the store.

The catalog is constantly changing and Su and Bea add new things all the time.

“Our store has things you don’t find here on Bonaire.

Everything we offer is online. Items we sell could be from anywhere in the world but are shipped from the U.S. and Canada,” said Bea, “We try to keep the shipping cost as low as possible. Buying something from us in the store is cheaper than if they buy it online and ship themselves.”

Every item is researched for quality, price, style and how well it will sustain Bonaire’s climate.

Bea said, “For instance we check the

fans sold to make sure they are ‘wet-rated’, energy efficient and that they look great.”

Online and in the store you’ll find beach, coastal and traditional furniture, including beds, chairs, chests, rugs and tables. All types of sea inspired home accessories for entertaining including coasters, dinnerware and placemats. There are even one of a kind paintings and art from local artists.

Bea, originally from Uruguay, has been on Bonaire since 2010 and owned the Rumba Café. When she sold it seven years ago she thought she would just sit back and enjoy the island. Then her friend Su from New Jersey moved to the island in 2013 and the ladies were inspired to open Bonaire Coastal Living.

Su loves decorating and design and will decorate your home at no charge if the items are purchased from the store. She personalizes each home to the client’s taste and style and loves doing it.

Bonaire Coastal Living offers specialty wood-working, millwork and cabinetry by Su’s partner Chris Vogt. Photography of his completed work is available to view in the store.

The shop is tucked away off a side street of Kaya Korona near Van den Tweel supermarket. There are signs leading the way. Bonaire Coastal Living is open Monday, Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. If you would like to visit at a different time then call 599-700-6049 for an appointment. For enticing online shopping before you visit go to <https://www.bonairecoastalliving.com>. *Photo and story by Julie Morgan.*



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Special Olympics Walk-a-thon 2019 attracted 700 paid ticket participants and countless volunteers. The bikers, walkers and runners traveled from the slave huts at the southern part of the island to the center of Rincon in the north. Congratulations to everyone who participated to help Special Olympics Bonaire. More photos on *The Bonaire Reporter's* facebook page.



FORSA PWA riding the winds and playing with the army

Local windsurfers take home top wins

Congratulations to Sarah-Quita Offringa ARU 91, Aruba, and Amado Vrieswijk NB20, Bonaire, for their amazing wins as queen and king of Bonaire at FORSA PWA Women's and Men's Freestyle. Amada was featured in the April 1 issue of *The Bonaire Reporter* and that wasn't an April Fool's joke.

The best of the best in women's and men's freestyle windsurfing were:

Women's Freestyle

- 1st Sarah-Quita Offringa (ARU - Starboard / NeilPryde / Maui Ultra Fins)
- 2nd Maaïke Huvermann (NED - Starboard / Severne / Maui Ultra Fins)
- 3rd Oda Johanne Windsurfing (NOR - Starboard / Severne / Maui Ultra Fins)
- 4th Arrienne Aukes (NED - Fanatic / Duotone / Maui Ultra Fins)
- 5th Jazzy Zwerus (NED - JP / NeilPryde)

Men's Freestyle

- 1st Amado Vrieswijk - NB20 (NB - JP / Severne)
- 2nd Youp Schmit (NB - I-99 / Avanti)
- 3rd Julian Mas (FRA - JP / Gun Sails)
- 4th Yentel Caers B-16 (BEL I-99 / Point-7)
- 5th Giovanni Passani I-139 (ITA - Tabou / GA Sails)
- 6th Antony Ruenes F85 (TFRA - abou / GA Sails)
- 7th Adrien Bosson Windsurfing (FRA - Fanatic / Duotone / Maui Ultra Fins)
- 7th Davy Scheffers (NED - Tabou / GA Sails)
- 9th Sam Esteve F-79 (FRA - JP / NeilPryde)
- 9th Steven Van Broeckhoven (BEL - Starboard / Gun Sails)
- 9th Taty Frans (NB - Point-7)
- 9th Julian Wiemar (GER - Starboard / Severne)

Next stop for the World Cup tour is Marseille, France.



A windsurf competitor practicing high-flying skills and testing the wind in Bonaire's beautiful waters at Sorbonne.



Throughout the week FORSA PWA provided Bonaire schools with a chance to enjoy the beach and get a first hand look at windsurfing and various other activities. The students enjoyed watching the windsurf pros and the Dutch army set up an agility course for them to try their skills. They even rode in some of the military trucks. These kids are from Kolegio Rayo di Solo.



Sarah-Quita Offringa ARU 91, Aruba, and Amado Vrieswijk NB20, Bonaire. The queen and king of Bonaire at FORSA PWA.



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Reef Glimpses

Deadly Debris

Having dived our Piers for years, I've had more experience than most divers with the effects of various items of trash on marine animals. That wasn't my first thought, though, when I saw this mantis shrimp.

My first thought was, "Holy cowfish! There's a mantis shrimp and I actually have a camera!"

I prepared myself carefully for the shot, figuring one was all I was likely to get. Have you ever seen a mantis shrimp while diving? If you have, you know that by the time it registers on you that you're seeing a mantis shrimp, the critter has bolted out of sight or, at best, backed into its den.

As I glided forward, this one didn't move. As I put the camera inches away from it, it didn't move. I figured it must be a freshly-molted shell, which would still make a useful photo, so I took some pictures. Then it wriggled.

A close look showed a perfectly alive mantis shrimp, so entangled in the wispy pieces of this artificial-fiber rope that it could barely wriggle. It certainly had no chance of disentangling itself. Considering how exposed it was, perhaps some predator would come along and gobble it up, but otherwise the future it faced was death by starvation.

Until - ta-dah - a diver came along who knew enough about these animals to realize this one was either dead or in trouble, and the diver had shears and a little knife. Being careful not to cut the critter's legs

along with the filament, I had freed most of it when suddenly it broke free. In nano-seconds it had scurried out of sight.

It was so great to be able to help that shrimp!

When this sort of thing happens, my buddies often ask how I knew there was a problem. The answer is usually in the animal's behavior. That's part of the fun of learning what animals do in addition to their names. And when unusual behavior isn't a sign of trouble, it's often mating interactions, which are much more rewarding to watch if you know what's happening.

We examined the piece of unravelling rope for other animals - there were none - and disposed of it properly out of the water. It's alarming and horrible that human-made debris, completely benign to us, can kill marine animals. More on this in a future Reef Glimpse.

To learn more about this creature, look up the Dark Mantis, *Neogonodactylis curacaoensis*. (Roughly, this translates as: neo=new; gono=seed [egg?]; dactylis=fin-gered - I think this refers to the mantis' special limbs for carrying eggs. Curacaoensis translates to "belonging to Curaçao", and the first of the species to be described was probably collected off Curaçao.)



Photo and story by Dee Scarr



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A Garden? Just Do It!

Time to harvest

There are a lot of fruit and some veggies after a short rainy season. The year started very dry, and with a hard wind and hot sun plants have a difficult time. Even so, there is still a lot of fruit ripening and they look good. The locals call this time Simadan.

In Rincon this harvest is part of a big cultural festival at the end of April called Dia di Rincon that features cultural music, dances and a harvest parade with locals dressed in beautiful cultural costumes.

Harvesting the fruit

During the rainy season, fruit trees blossom and soon after the young fruits begin to grow. When there is still rain, the fruit becomes nice and juicy and ready to pick.

The past rainy season was short, so the fruit needed more time to mature. I'm very satisfied with the fruit and vegetables in my garden.

I have a big bunch of plantain shown in the photo, and another bunch that just popped up from another tree. This type of plantain is a different than we are used to seeing. The locals say it comes from Santo Domingo. They are white inside and may be consumed when ripe or cooked while still green. They are delicious and I use them green in soup and as a vegetable. The tree is a huge tree, bigger than the average banana tree we usually see. Besides the plantain I have bacoba. This has been a good year for these plants.

I also have papaya and they are changing color everyday. They will take about a month to ripen and when they are completely orange they are ready to eat. The locals consume the papaya as a vegetable too. They use the green papaya in various meat and fish stews with a lot of herbs and spices.

Green papaya recipe

Last week, when I had friends over for lunch, I picked the greenest papaya from the tree and made it as a great tasting veggie. First I peeled off the skin and chopped the papaya in small parts. I fried it in just a little bit of oil with onion and garlic turning it with a wooden spoon. I added curcuma (turmeric), a good amount of curry, a bit of cumin, a small string of tamarind, salt and pepper and some water. I let this stew for 20 minutes and added fresh coconut milk at the end. I then let it stew until it boiled and immediately turned off the fire. Don't let it boil as the coco milk will turn into coco oil. This is a very nice recipe for vegetarians. My friends were surprised to eat papaya in a totally different way and they loved it. Green papayas grow everywhere on the island. Just ask people if you can buy them. Occasionally they will give you one for free.

Harvesting the vegetables

I have fewer vegetables: spinach, purs-



Great plantain of my garden.

lane, hot peppers and two small pumpkins. I also have herbs of which I make fresh green teas. Every morning I take a walk in my garden to enjoy all I see. While walking I pick what there is and use it for the day. I have yerbi di hole or bonairian basil which is a sister of the italian basil), lemon grass, oregano and wild bitter melon. I combine the herbs with leaves from the moringa tree or the red cotton tree to make a green tea. These



Harvesting yuca in my yard.

medicinal types of herbs have a very strong taste but they support my health so I use them once a while.

Yuca

Last but not least I'm harvesting a yuca. Isn't it great. Its amazing how much yuca comes from one plant. I have yuca plants in different spots in the yard to see where they grow best—a kind of research. My friend helped me pull the whole yuca plant from the ground. I first sprayed water on the soil with a hose. Then I chopped off the plant so only a



Making Bonaire "Accessible"

OUR WHEELCHAIR CHALLENGES # 7.

A few weeks ago we were presented with a "social map", which made me feel very happy.

Our Bonairian community has changed a lot in the last couple of years. There were many agencies and organizations for years that everyone was familiar with. We knew the staff and they knew their target-group very well. But they changed their name, their goals, and to get their assistance, you had to do a lot of research. To find them you had to search hard, because they had moved, changed their goals, procedures and rules. Many organizations do not exist anymore. Worse yet, there are more organizations than ever and we barely know about them. When you become ill, acquire a handicap or get to be 60+, there is a lot of help that you can apply for.

In a "social map" citizens will find information about organizations and the services they offer, their products and activities in the social domain. A social map can also be used for a very specific target group. It's like a roadmap for professionals and inhabitants to find their way into the huge network.

There is also a large and growing group of migrants on Bonaire to be considered. They don't speak the language efficiently and they have needs. They are a part of our community and the government needs to take this into consideration.

The new social map was designed for the elderly, but many other groups can use it. Written in Papiamentu, it consists of two parts and all the bases are covered.

The first part, A, is about the government: its medical section, care-section, and development and recreation section.

The second part, B, addresses the challenges of day-to-day living.

Contents of Part A: local government, bestuurskantoor (for help with finances such as rent), social affairs and work, civil section, offices for capacity, development, care and community, government of the kingdom, zvk (health insurance), social affairs and employment, office of statistics, medical/care-section, mental health, Fundashon Mariadal (hospital), basic care, first aid and paramedical care.

small part of the stem was left. We carefully pulled out the root from the wet soil and were amazed at the amount of yuca. I planted the yuca eight months ago, and I did not need use a lot of water or time on it. It grew without much attention. You can imagine how surprised I was with the result. I made yuca soup, fried yuca and my yuca chips and by simply boiling the yuca. All were very nice.

Give your body all these goodies. Garden yourself. JUST DO IT NOW.



Contents of Part B.: F.K.B. (housing foundation), Rent commission, WEB., Best Care (health care products and services), medical transport, dealing with a death, notaries, help for victims, insurance for the elderly.



This social map comes in very handy. The characters are large and easy to read without reading glasses. The format is A4 and the map is not too thick, only 25 pages.

The map is a project of the Fundashon Konsulta pa grandinan Bonaire (Foundation for the Elderly). They wanted to create this Social Map for all their clients, in order to make everything they need more accessible.

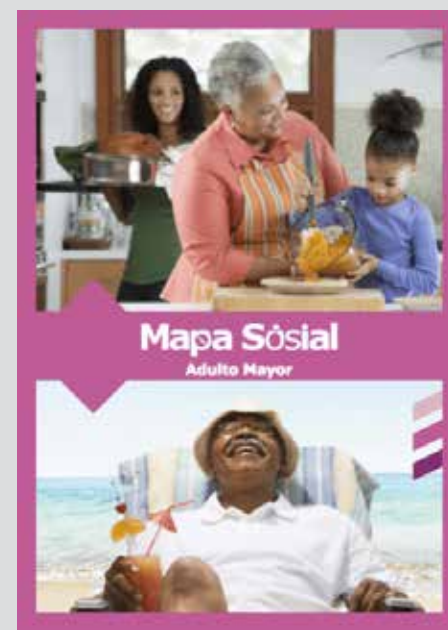
You can put it under the phone or keep it by your bedside. And if your copy is smudged, unreadable or torn, you can always apply for a new one at the foundation's websites:

www.plasaadulto.com (Papiamentu)

www.seniorplasa.com (English)

www.ouderenplein.com (Dutch)

You many also call; their number is on the website. Have fun reading it and if you have suggestions, you can always let them know. *Ria Evers-Dokter*

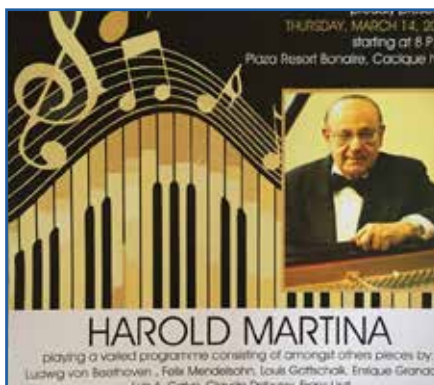
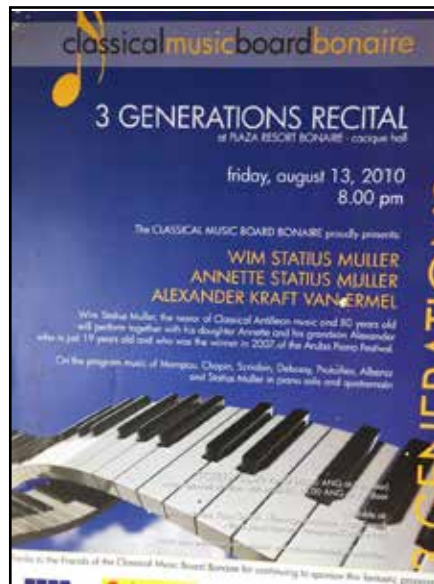


Faces of 2019 Walk-a-thon



Bonaire Reporter Apr. 15-29, 2019

May 10-11, 24-25
Festival!
10th year Anniversary



Festival May 2019 offers two weekends of music 1st Weekend

Friday 10

11.00 **School concert**, Wood Quintet Curacao with Chaira Borderslee; Mondriaan Hall, Court Yard Marriott Bonaire

8.00 **Benefit Concert**, Quintet Curacao with Chaira Borderslee; Mondriaan Hall Court Yard Marriott

Saturday 11 Wilhemina Park:

7.00 BilBoBasso, spectacular fire dances from France

7.45- 9.00 Quintet Curacao

9.00- 10.00 Tuttie Fruttie, both with Chaira Borderslee and tba

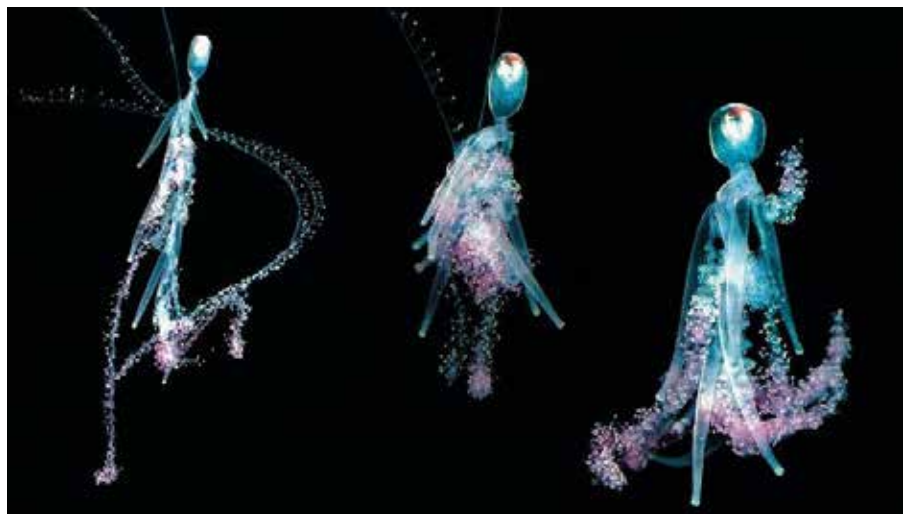
The 10th anniversary of the Classical Music Board Bonaire (CMBB) will be celebrated this May. During the last ten years the CMBB has organized 80 concerts, school programs and music clinics.

Various musicians from all over the world have entertained Bonaire with classical, world music and jazz. The artists love playing in Bonaire due to the organization and a fine grand piano, donated by private funding and maintained by the ten year old Fundashon Piano Grandi.

The CMBB has emphasized the rich heritage of classical Antillean Music. Throughout the years, music has been performed at various venues by famous pianists Harold Martina, Wim Status Muller, Johnny Kleinmoedig, and Lyvio Hermans. On occasion the internationally renowned artists have performed with local musicians. The Three Baritones, Marco Bakker, Erns Daniel Smit and Henk Poort, played with Tuttie Fruttie to an audience of 400 people on the beach at Plaza Resort Bonaire. The Carel Kraayenhof Septet, famous for their wedding ceremony performance for the King and Queen, played twice to a sold-out San Bernardo Church of nearly 1000 visitors. They also performed with a local youth choir. Famous saxophonist Henk van Twillert, with his educative power, inspired the local saxophone group to grow into the foundation Saxomania!

CMBB is responsible for the tradition of local musicians performing at Bonaire's Christmas and New Year concerts. They also combined evening and special school concerts giving thousand of students the opportunity to enjoy live classical music for the first time. All this was not possible without the enduring support of companies and private donors: Rocargo, Flamingo Communications, Sunbelt Realty, Bonaire Extra, mega it FM, BonFM, Plaza Beach Resort Bonaire, Nos TV, MCB, Cuba Compagnie, Prins Bernhard Cultuurfonds Dutch Caribbean, Van der Twel and Cultuur Fonds. *Hans Odin Faassen, Chairman*

DID YOU KNOW?



Did You Know... That those stingy things in the water, often called pika pika, are actually many different species of jellies, some of which only experts know the scientific names of?

The most common one in Bonaire is called the paired-bell siphonophore in the Reef Creature Identification book, but last week my colleague Roxanne and I were doing a coral reef monitoring dive at 18 Palms and we saw the strangest creature. A type of stringy jelly that looked similar to our common siphonophore, but it had a shiny, reddish float at the top that looked like a tiny, evil eyeball. It had a long, skinny body and would contract when we got near. We tried to take good photos of it but failed miserably! The next day, a curious park visitor sent me several photos (much better photos than the ones we took) of the same type of creature wanting to know what it was.

Every now and then Bonaire gets a wave of strange planktonic critters – animals that are at the mercy of the currents – and, for a few days, our waters are full of delicate, transparent jelly-like creatures. Sometimes they are chained together, resembling colonial tunicates.

To identify this particular mystery critter, I first searched through some images in Google and then sent my guess and the images to a few of my close contacts that love these sorts of challenges. They in turn, sent the info to Dr. Bert Hoeksema of Naturalis in the Netherlands, who then consulted with Dr. Gill Mapstone of the National History Museum in London. She is a world expert in siphonophores! There are about 170 species of siphonophores throughout our world's oceans and she identified this one to the genus level based on our photos.

It so happens that what we saw is a colonial siphonophore in the genus Rhizophysa. The colonial part means that there are many different individuals/units living together as one functioning colony – they work together to survive. Some sting and eat, some reproduce and some use jet propulsion to move the colony along. In fact, some of the 'jet' individuals are in charge of propelling the colony, moving it along, while others determine the direction it moves. It's a sophisticated design that is being studied in order to design more efficient underwater propulsion vehicles!

Rhizophysa feeds on other plankton, tiny creatures including copepods and larval fish. It delivers a nasty sting (in order to feed), so I'm glad we saw it before we bumped into it. When disturbed, it can scrunch up to a length of less than 10cm, but when it's relaxed, it can reach more than a meter in length.

Our world is full of fabulous creatures. Once again, thanks to the help of several very knowledgeable people, mystery solved! *Written by STINAPA biologist Caren Eckrich, Connecting People With Nature. Photo credit: Larry Madin, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute*



What's Happening

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Friday, April 19 | Good Friday Holiday |
| Sunday, April 21 | Easter Sunday Holiday |
| Monday, April 22 | Easter Monday Holiday Easter Egg Hunt for 12 year-olds and younger Washington Slagbaai Park (see below) Earth Day Harvest Simadan Festival @ Rincon marks the harvest of Bonaire's growing season (March/April). |
| Saturday, April 27 | King's Day Holiday Rotary Bonaire Annual Flea Market Wilhelmina Park, Kralendijk Mashe Rincon Krioyo Street market in Rincon, 1st & last Saturday each month Nos Zjilea Cultural Event from 8am till 2pm at Mangazina di Rei located at the east-entrance of Rincon. Enjoy delicious food, live music, local arts & crafts, plants & vegetables, educational presentations and an exhibition about Rincon. Fun, relaxed and entertaining for kids and adults alike. All proceeds go to our educational programs. SEE, FEEL AND TASTE THE CULTURE OF BONAIRE. |
| Tuesday, April 30 | Rincon Day The whole island comes to Rincon to celebrate the oldest town of the Dutch Caribbean. Enjoy local food, music, dances and the grand parade. |
| Wednesday, May 1 | Labor Day Holiday Harvest Simadan Festival @ Kralendijk marks the harvest of Bonaire's growing season (March/April). |
| Saturday, May 4 | Global Big Day Join the world-wide bird count. Info: https://ebird.org/news/global-big-day-4-may-2019 . Mashe Rincon Krioyo Street market in Rincon, 1st & last Saturday each month |
| Friday, May 10 | Music Festival 8pm Benefit Concert, Quintet Curaçao with Chaira Borderslee; Mondriaan Hall Court Yard Marriott. See page 5. |
| Saturday, May 11 | Music Festival 7pm Wilhemina Park, BilBoBasso, spectacular fire dances from France, Quintet Curacao, Tuttie Fruttie, both with Chaira Borderslee See page 5 |
| Sunday, May 12 | Mother's Day |



Washington Slagbaai National Park is holding an Easter Egg Hunt on April 22, 9:30am-1am. Stinapa Bonaire. Maximum age is 12 years old. Admission is only \$2 for each hunter and that includes a drink and snack. Space is limited so registration is required. Call 599-717-8444 of email da@stinapa.org. The hunt is BYOB (Bring Your Own Basket).

REGULAR EVENTS

'Sea Turtles of Bonaire' is a free public presentation about Bonaire's endangered sea turtles—topics such as where to see sea turtles, how they live, what they eat, how they reproduce and how you can help! Where: Yellow Sub, Dive Friends Bonaire (on the front porch) 8:00pm, 2nd & 4th Wednesdays.

Rooi Lamoenchi Kunuku Park Tours—\$21 (includes tax). Discounts for residents and local people. Tel. 717-8489, 540-9800.

Soldachi Tours. See the Real Bonaire and be transported back in time. Learn about the history, culture and nature by Bonaireans from Rincon. Call Maria Koeks for more information: 796-7870, 717-6435.

Nature Organization, STINAPA, has frequent events—bird watching, sunset hikes, lectures, etc. Go to their website for information of events for the rest of 2019: stinapabonaire.org/events, Tel. 717-8444

Bonaire Goat Farm Tour. Monday, Wednesday & Friday. 9 am. Meet the goats, see milking, and more. \$10 includes tea. Kids \$5. 786-6950.

Echo. See Bonaire's parrots. Wednesday

at 5pm \$10 per person. Public Conservation Tour. No reservation needed. For optimal birding, book a private tour by calling 701-1188 or email info@echobonaire.org. We need at least one day's notice. Private tours \$25/person 2 person minimum.

SATURDAYS

• **Marshe di Playa (Bonaire Duodero)** Every Saturday, 8am-1pm, near Warehouse Bonaire, locally made and grown products.

• **Marshe di Kunukero (Farmers' Market)** At Kriabon the first Saturday of the Month. Kaminda Jatu Baco #55, next to Aquamarin School, 8am-12noon.

• **Monthly Cultural Event 'Nos Zjilea' at Cultural Park Mangazina di Rei** - Every last Saturday of the month A fusion of local arts & crafts, plants & vegetables, educational presentations, food & music and an exhibition about the most interesting sights around Rincon. Fun, relaxed and entertaining for both kids and adults. All proceeds go to our educational programs. SEE, FEEL AND TASTE THE CULTURE OF BONAIRE

• **Marshe Rincon Krioyo** 1st & last Saturdays. Street market in Rincon, crafts, local food, sweets, noon—6pm.

• **Bonaire Animal Shelter's Garage Sale (Pakus di Pruga)**—every Saturday, 8am-5pm. At Kaminda Liberador Simon Bolivar, across from Brandaris Café. Tel. 717-4989. Drop cast offs on Saturdays or at the Shelter on the Lagoen Road weekdays. 717-4989.

• **Food Bank (Stichting voedselbank Bonaire)** Last Saturday of the month. Donate foods & household items 9:30am-2pm at Van den Tweel Supermarket.

• **Petanque—Jeu de Boules,** 2:30-6pm, Bolascenre GOLDFINCH (next to baseball

2019 Cruise Ships

| DAY | DATE | CRUISESHIP | TIME | PIER | CAPACITY | LINE |
|-----------|------|-----------------------|-----------|--------|----------|-----------------|
| Tuesday | 4-16 | Monarch | 0800-1800 | N.pier | 2744 | Pullmantur |
| Tuesday | 4-16 | Navigator of the Seas | 0900-2000 | S.pier | 3114 | RCCL |
| Thursday | 4-18 | Freedom of the Seas | 0800-1800 | S.pier | 3782 | RCCL |
| Saturday | 4-20 | Serenade of the Seas | 0800-1800 | S.pier | 3114 | RCCL |
| Sunday | 4-21 | Thomson Celebration | 0900-1800 | N.pier | 1254 | Thomson Cruises |
| Sunday | 4-21 | Zaandam | 0800-1700 | S.pier | 1432 | HAL |
| Wednesday | 4-24 | Regatta | 0700-1400 | N.pier | 824 | Oceana Cruises |

centre on Kaminda Sorobon) Info: 786-0150.

CLUBS and MEETINGS

• **Rotary lunch meetings Wednesdays,** 12:15-2 pm - Marriott Courtyard Hotel, Piet B meeting room. All Rotarians welcome. Call Gregory Obersi 785-9446.

• **General 12-step meeting (AA, NA, CoDa etc.)**—Every Wednesday at Bonaire Basics, Kaya Korona 47. Starts at 19.15, ends at 20.30, walk in from 19.00. For more information, email: 12stepbonaire@gmail.com

• **Chess Club** meets Wednesday to play starting at 6 pm at Tera Cora Ranch.

• **Lions Club** meets every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month at 8 pm at Kaya Sabana #1. All Lions welcome. For more information call 510-0710.

• **Toastmasters Club** meets every two weeks. For more information call Crusita de Palm at 786-3827 or Lucia Martinez Beck, at 786-2953.

CHURCH SERVICES

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints. Kaya Sabana 26 Sunday Services - Papiamentu/Espanol 9am to 12 noon Add'l Info (599) 701-9522 Dutch/English 1pm to 3pm. Add'l Info (599) 701-2892

Protestant Congregation of Bonaire (VPGB), Kralendijk, Plaza Wilhelmina; Sunday service-10am in Dutch. Rincon, Kaya C.D. Crestian; Sunday service-8:30am in Papiamentu/Dutch.

Children's Club Every Saturday from 4:30-6pm in Kralendijk, (annex of the church.) Contact: Marytjin@gmail.com or Daisycoffie@hotmail.com

Dutch service Every Sunday evening at 7pm, Hanchi Amboina 37.Kralendijk. Pastor Oppeneer. Info call+599 787-0646

International Bible Church. Kaya Papago 104, Hato, behind Bon Fysio/Bon Bida Spa & Gym on Kaya Gob.N. Debrot. Sunday 9am-Worship service in English; 10:45am-Sunday school for all ages. 717-8332 for more info or ride bonaireibc@gmail.com.

Catholic. San Bernardus in Kralendijk. Services, Sunday at 8am and 7pm in Papiamentu.

Our Lady of Coromoto in Antriol. Saturday at 6pm in English. Mass in Papiamentu on Sunday at 9am and 6pm. 717-4211.

Assembly of God (Asemblea di Dios). Kaya Triton (Den Cheffi). In English, Dutch & Papiamentu on Sunday at 10am. Wednesday- Prayer Meeting at 7:30 pm. 717-2194

Casa de Oracion para todas las naciones. Hanchi Amboina 37 Kralendijk, Spanish service: every Sunday morning at 9 am. Dutch service: every Sunday evening at 7 pm.

Prayer Walk at Rooi Lamoenchi every first Sunday of the Month (or on request) for all followers of Christ. 4.30 pm till 7.30 pm.

Contact Ellen Cochrane-Herrera at el-lenherracochrane@yahoo.ca or phone 717-8489 or +5999-540-9800. English/Papiamentu/Dutch/Spanish.

MUSEUMS & EXHIBITS

• **Terramar Museum** at Terramar Shopping Mall, on the waterfront. Monday-Saturday 9am-6pm. Sunday, closed. Cruise ship days 9am-6pm, \$10, \$5 for residents, children free. *Coral Restoration exhibit.* 717-0423, 780-4327

• **Museo Bonaire** on the waterfront at the old Kas di Arte, Kaya Kachi Craane #34. 717-8868. Monday-Friday 9am-noon, 2-4pm. *Salute to the Sailors exhibit*—Free

• **Chichi i Tan Museum.** Step into the past in an old Bonairean home and garden. Open Thursdays through Sundays. Reserve 717-3183 or 795-2021 Free but donations appreciated. Kaya Melon #4, behind Rose Inn in Rincon.

• **Washington-Slagbaai National Park Museum and Visitors' Center.** Open daily 8 am-5 pm. 788-9015 or 796-5681

• **Tanki Maraka Heritage Park and Open Air Museum.** Site of an American soldiers' camp during WWII. Self-guided tour with excellent signage. After leaving Kralendijk on the Rincon Road watch for sign to the park on the right. Driveway to entrance just a short distance. Free entry.

• **Yana's Fine Art Museum** at Lagoen Hill 19- Call: 599 785-5002. Free entry. Yana's Art is also exhibited at Bon Bida Spa and Gym. Info: 599 785-5002

• **Bonaire Museum of National History** Kaya Julio C. van der Ree #7, open all cruiseship days, 9am-3pm. Free entrance





BONAIRE SKY PARK*

*to find it—just look up

JUPITER AND SATURN PLAY LEAPFROG WITH THE MOON

Jupiter and Saturn will play leapfrog with the moon next week.

If you look toward the south, an hour before sunrise, Sunday morning, April 21st, you'll see three bright objects in the sky. The brightest is the moon. The moon will be in the waning gibbous phase in the constellation Scorpius the Scorpion. The next brightest object is Jupiter. To the left of the moon, it will shine with a bright, steady white light.

Jupiter, the largest planet in our solar system, makes up over 75% of the solar system's planetary mass. Jupiter has been observed in the sky since antiquity. The ancient romans named it after the king of their gods, whom the Greeks referred to as Zeus. Babylonian astronomers have records of Jupiter dating back to the 7th century B.C. In his book "The Almagest," Greek astronomer Claudius Ptolemy used Jupiter's motion with respect to the earth to refine his earth-centered model of the solar system. Ptolemy showed that Jupiter took almost 12 years to make a complete circuit of the sky, which we now know as the time it takes Jupiter to orbit the sun.

In 1610, Italian astronomer Galileo Galilei studied Jupiter using a telescope. He used the motion of the four largest moons of Jupiter; Io, Europa, Ganymede and Callisto, to support Nicholas Copernicus' view of a sun-centered solar system

The third bright object in the southern sky will be Saturn. Saturn was named after Jupiter's father; the Roman god of agriculture. The second largest planet in our solar system, Saturn is so large you could put 750

earths inside it, if it were hollow.

Saturn is an amazing planet. When the Cassini space probe visited Saturn in 2006, it confirmed a discovery that Voyager 1 made back in 1981 - a large hexagon at Saturn's north pole. Like Saturn itself, this hexagon is enormous. Each side of Saturn's hexagon is 9,000 miles in length and the clouds are estimated to be over 190 miles high. Many astronomers believe that this bizarre feature is the result of an atmospheric wave pattern caused by differences in the densities and speeds of the atmosphere near Saturn's north pole. The Cassini mission determined the rotation rate for the hexagon to be a little over 10 hours and 40 minutes - the same period of rotation of Saturn's internal radio emissions.

Let's check out that celestial game of lunar leapfrog. An hour before sunrise on Monday morning, April 22nd the waning gibbous moon is just to the right of Jupiter and directly north of Antares; the heart of Scorpius the Scorpion. On April 23rd the moon will be a little over one degree (or two full moon widths) away from Jupiter. On the 24th the moon is almost exactly halfway between Jupiter and Saturn; and right above the star Kaus Borealis in the teapot of Sagittarius. On the 25th just before sunrise, Saturn and the moon will be just over 2 degrees (or four full moon widths) apart. So, to recap... Let's check out that lunar leapfrog again. Watch the sky on the 21st. to 25th! So, get outside and gaze upon our nearest neighbor in space playing leap frog with Jupiter and Saturn. *Dean Regas & James Albury*



THE STARS HAVE IT

Horoscope April 2019

Aries (Mar.21–Apr.20) Payoff all your debts before you go out and celebrate. Discrimination will be in order. Control your temper when dealing with your emotional partner. Rewards for past good deeds will be yours. Don't evade issues or twist the truth. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Friday.

Taurus (Apr.21–May 21) You can make some money if you get involved in a conservative financial prospect that is presented to you. Visitors may relieve the tension. Talk to someone with experience about budgets or consolidating debts. Health problems may prevail if you haven't been getting enough rest. Lucky days: Monday and Tuesday.

Gemini (May 22–Jun.21) Get involved in philosophic groups that will enlighten you. Female colleagues may be able to help you get the job done. You may have more to do with children this month; keep an open mind. Family members will not be happy with the amount of time you are spending away from home. Your luckiest events this month will occur on a Wednesday.

Cancer (Jun.22–Jul.22) Be careful not to misplace your wallet or belongings. Start sending out resumes. Stress may cause minor health ailments. Don't hesitate to talk to your partner about rekindling your relationship. Lucky day: Monday.

Leo (Jul.23–Aug.22) Upheavals may occupy your day. You can stabilize your personal relationship if you're willing to communicate honestly. Your emotions will be touched off concerning recent encounters with your lover. You may want to clear the air where older relatives are concerned. Lucky days: Monday and Wednesday.

Virgo (Aug.23–Sept.23) Confusion at an emotional level will cause you to make wrong decisions concerning your personal life. Secret affairs may only cause complications in your life. In-laws may cause difficulties. Travel should be considered. If you've taken on a lot of work, be sure to leave some time for yourself and family. Lucky days: Monday and Friday.

Libra (Sept.24–Oct.23) Think about starting your own small business, Cultural activities open your eyes to new ways of doing things. Self improvement projects should be your key concern. You can accomplish a lot if you direct your thoughts toward starting your own small business on the side. Lucky days: Monday and Tuesday.

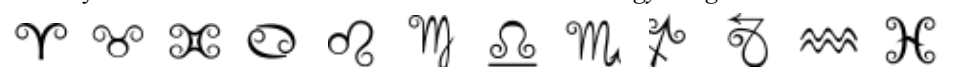
Scorpio (Oct. 24–Nov. 22) Don't hesitate to voice your opinions at a group meeting; however, keep your thoughts to yourself at home. You're intuitive this month; however, this attribute could get you in trouble if you tactlessly say what you think. Be sure that the person you're drawn to is not already involved. You'll have amazing ideas, but superiors may try to block your attempts at implementing them. Lucky days: Tuesday and Wednesday.

Sagittarius (Nov.23–Dec.21) Your emotions may get the better of you. Take precautions while traveling; you don't have to get anywhere that fast. Don't overlook that fact that someone you care about may be hiding something. You will find that unfinished projects at home will be most satisfying. Lucky days: Tuesday and Saturday.

Capricorn (Dec.22–Jan.20) Your high energy will help you through hectic days. Relationships will form if you do things that you enjoy. Younger relatives may seek your advice. You can learn from those who have had similar experiences. Lucky days: Monday and Friday.

Aquarius (Jan.21–Feb.19) Consider property purchases. You may be fortunate while traveling. Don't be afraid to talk to close friends or relatives about pressing personal problems. A need to be in love may fool you. Lucky days: Friday and Saturday

Pisces (Feb.20–Mar.20) You can make money through real estate or by using your head for personal investments. Pleasure trips will ease the tension between you and your mate. If you can get away for a vacation, do so. Don't say damaging things. Cut loose. Lucky days: Sunday and Friday. *Michael Emerson ©Astrology Insight*



Bonaire Sun Rise/Set Moon Phase & Tides (AST)

The Bonaire Reporter has retired its tide chart. You can now easily find online tide times and sea conditions for Kralendijk and various other locations on Bonaire.

Our favorite site is: tide-forecast.com. (<https://www.tide-forecast.com/locations/Kralendijk-Bonaire/tides/latest>)

Other sites are: TidesChart.com, Tidesmobilegeographics.com, Windfinder.com, Wisuki.com.

RIDE • SWIM • WALK FOR THE ROSES

Fight against cancer!

Ride for the Roses has moved their event date from APRIL 14 to JUNE 23, 2019.

The ride was established to raise funds for cancer patients on Bonaire. During their board meeting this week they decided it was best to change the date.

Ticket sales will continue at \$15 per ticket or a combination ticket is \$20. This is for athletes that would like to combine one or more events with another on their ticket: (ride/walk, ride/swim or swim/walk.

Previous tickets will be valid for the June 23 event. In the event that ticket holders are unable to participate on June 23 a full refund is available.

For more information or questions email info@ridefortheroses.org.

Faces of 2019 Walk-a-thon



Who's Who on The Bonaire Reporter

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Shelter News

Grannie, Pet of the Week

Hi everybody! My name is Grannie, but here at the Shelter I am more like a NANNY! I watch over all the busy playful puppies in the puppy palace. The puppies think I'm still a young one too, but to be honest I'm not that active anymore. I am almost seven years old. You wouldn't know that because I'm so pretty, if I may say so myself!

I am a very healthy lady, sterilized and have all my shots. I am happy at the Shelter but I really would prefer a home where the attention is all for me. I would love a special home where I can enjoy resting and quiet naps. In return I will look after your home and fill your heart with love and joy. I don't ask for much I just want to be your companion. Please come and visit me at the Animal Shelter at Kaminda Lagun 26A, Monday till Friday from 9am till 12pm and 3-5pm and Saturday from 9am - 3pm non-stop. Call for me at Bonaire Animal Shelter 701-4989 or 717-4989. *Story and photos by Sanne Attevelt*



Animal Shelter Bonaire is looking for animal lovers who would like to help us help the animals in your free time. Even something as little as two hours a week could be helpful to us! We have openings in cats, dogs, and general cleaning, laundry, etc. We need volunteers seven days a week and can accommodate whatever day/ days work for you.

WHY VOLUNTEER?

As a volunteer at the Shelter, your work could save animals' lives and help them find loving forever homes. Your interaction with our animals could change their future. By working with them, you could change a shy pet into one that is friendly and others will want to immediately adopt. You could help change the formerly neglected animal into the most loved one. You are capable of changing the animal world one cat or dog at a time.

It's a great way to meet new people and make new friends. The people around you are all here for the same reason: they love giving back to the animals. Volunteering at the Shelter ensures that you're surrounded by caring people, all working toward a common goal. You'll see the same people on a regular basis, and can bond through your common interest of helping animals and the inevitable funny stories that our animals will inspire. You will meet people outside of your usual circle that you might never have had the chance to interact with otherwise.

Your volunteer work at the Shelter is healthy! Scientific research proves that spending quality time with an animal has numerous health benefits and is a "de-stressor". If you are unable to have a pet at home, you can reap many of the same benefits by working with our Shelter residents.

WHAT IS YOUR REWARD? UNCONDITIONAL LOVE!

Shelter animals have a lot of love to give. You will get your dose of furry love by spending time with some very lucky cats and dogs with no shortage of unconditional love and appreciation. They teach us to love by loving us deeply- the way only an animal can. And no animal appreciates the love you have to give better than a shelter animal.

If you are interested in any type of volunteer work at Animal Shelter Bonaire, please contact us at 717-4989/701-4989 or email us at animalshelterbonaire@gmail.com



Congratulations to Animal Shelter Caregiver Sherliane Craane who completed her studies and is now preparing her thesis for a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from the University of Curacao. Sherliane has a major in International Business Management Studies, her thesis is a market research study for security services here on Bonaire. The thesis is due in the coming months and she will defend it in Curacao thereafter. Sherliane has been a great asset to the Shelter and the staff and animals will miss her. The Shelter wishes her much success in a brilliant future!



JOIN OUR GANG!



DO YOU LOVE ANIMALS? NOT AFRAID OF HARD WORK?

Animal Shelter Bonaire needs you for one of two positions:

1. Animal Care Giver/Level 2:

27 hours per week
(incl. some weekends) \$6.25 per hour

Requirements:

- Love of animals
- Physically able
- Good people skills & basic computer skills
- Speak, read & write basic English (Papiamentu a plus)
- Bonaire sedula
- Clear conduct record

2. Animal Care Giver/Level 1:

12 hours per week
(Saturday & Sunday only)

Requirements:

- Love of animals
- Physically able
- Good people skills
- Speak & read basic English (Papiamentu a plus)
- Bonaire sedula
- Clear conduct record

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